



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maryland
Northern Division*

*Thomas M. DiBiagio
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer*

*6625 United States Courthouse
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2692*

*410-209-4800
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462
410-209-4885
FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

**February 10, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
VICKIE E. LEDUC
(410) 209-4885**

**LOCAL GRANTS AWARDED AT
PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS CONFERENCE**

Baltimore, Maryland—Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced today that the following local grants were awarded at the Project Safe Neighborhoods conference in Philadelphia last week:

University of Maryland College Park	\$150,000
Baltimore Community Foundation	170,000
Baltimore City State Attorney's Office	400,000
TOTAL	\$720,000

Project Safe Neighborhoods is a partnership between federal, state and local law enforcement officials to aggressively prosecute illegal gun use and to make neighborhood streets safe. Last year, this partnership between the United States Attorney and Patricia Jessamy, the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, resulted in over 321 gun prosecutions, an increase of over 8%.

The Project Safe Neighborhoods conference provided training on topics concerning enforcement strategies to get gun violators off the streets, school programs to prevent violence, and community partnership building initiatives.

The national PSN conference was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice in partnership with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, National District Attorneys' Association and the National Crime Prevention Council.